

Minutes of the Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 11th November 2020 via ZOOM at 7.15pm. These are draft minutes and yet to be agreed by the Parish Council.

Present.

Cllr. Chris Butler

Cllr. Bill Dixey.

Cllr. Paul Foster. Chairman.

Cllr. Derek Hambling

Cllr. Ian Pleasance

Cllr. Derek Mason. Vice-Chairman.

Cllr. Pat Wickes.

Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council.

County Cllr. Jo Beavis

District Cllr. Peter Schwier

Together with 4 members of the public

200/20 Apologies for absence. No apologies were received.

201/20 Declarations of interest. To declare any pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests in accordance with the Code of Conduct. There were no interests declared.

202/20 (a) To approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Proposed Cllr. Dixey, Seconded Cllr. Hambling. All agreed. Therefore, the minutes were duly approved. **(b) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting not on the agenda. Item 159/20** Public comment – Salt Bin: Cllr. Mason reported that this had not been moved yet. The salt in the bin was now soft and so could be removed before moving the bin. **Action:** Cllr Butler and Mason to move the salt bin. **Item 179/20** Public comment – Goalposts: Cllr. Mason still chasing Itsagoal. **Item 179/20** Public Comment – Dog Bin: Emptied and replaced. **Item 180/20** County Councillor's report – Potholes: none reported. Humpbacked bridge drain cleared by Cllr. Butler. **Item 182/20 Finance** - Item 3 VAT reclaim: The clerk confirmed that £1547 had been reclaimed from HMRC and had been received by BACS. Item 5 Maps: These had been purchased. **Action:** Clerk to deliver maps to councillors. **Item 184/20** Playing Field – Item 2 RoSPA report: Cllr. Mason had managed to obtain a quote for onsite welding on the slide. It was agreed that Cllr. Mason would remove the broken bar and provide a replacement which would be welded into place. Bar will cost about £10-20, Welding around £120. **Action:** Cllr. Mason.

203/20 Public comment. A resident asked about the broken bench from the Playing Field. Cllr. Mason had repaired the bench which now needed painting. A resident

offered to paint the bench. It was confirmed that the bench will be bolted to the floor again. There is a pothole by Jolly Cottage, Burtons Green Road. Resident will take a photo and send to clerk who will send it on to County Cllr. Beavis. **Action: Clerk.**

204/20 County Councillor’s report. C. Cllr. Beavis provided an update on the following:

- Essex County Council (ECC) offices still closed to the public
- Priority areas for ECC are young people, schools, and Adult Social care.
- £4.5 million was received on entering Tier 2 of which £2.6 million is ringfenced for Welfare.
- C. Cllr. Beavis has toured the division and reported any issues to Highways and has reported Star Stile Road issues. She also noted the increase in traffic going through the village.
- Will deliver her annual report after Lockdown has ended.

C. Cllr. Beavis encouraged the Parish Council to apply for money from her County Councillor grant. Cllr. Mason asked if it could be used along with CIF funding for the climbing frame replacement. C. Cllr. Beavis confirmed it could. It was agreed that the Parish Council shall apply for £1500 to go towards the climbing frame. **Action:** Clerk and C. Cllr. Beavis.

The Chairman, Cllr. Foster thanked C. Cllr. Beavis for attending.

205/20 District Councillor’s report. D.Cllr. Schwier provided an update on the following:

- There has been a 35% increase in fly tipping.
- The Community Transport service has been repurposed to collect prescriptions, shopping.
- Braintree District Council (BDC) are upgrading their website to make it simpler.
- Town centre improvements progressing well.

D. Cllr. Schwier confirmed he would like his 2019-20 grant of £600 to be ringfenced for the Playing Field power supply. Cllr. Mason asked if there is a time period before having to pay the grant back. D. Cllr. Schwier was unsure and will check.

The fly tipping at Stisted- BDC enforcement will make sure the rubbish is cleared.

The Chairman, Cllr. Foster asked when the Bournebridge Hill planning application would be determined. D. Cllr. Schwier will obtain an update. **Action:** D. Cllr. Schwier.

The Chairman, Cllr. Foster thanked D. Cllr..Schwier for his attendance.

206/20 Finance Item 1: To agree the accounts for payment. Proposed Cllr. Hambling, seconded Cllr. Mason. All agreed. The account for payment were duly approved.

Cheque Number		Payee	Amount	Reason
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891		Mrs A J Degnan	£59.99	Microsoft 365
892		Mrs A J Degnan	£30.00	BDC maps
893		Mrs A J Degnan	£50.00	Outstanding Salary O-D
894		Mrs A J Degnan	£43.28	Expenses inc Zoom
895		MDLandscapes	£1,454.40	Grasscutting
SO		Mrs A J Degnan	£300.00	15/9/20 Salary
		Total payments for Nov 2020.	£1,937.67	
		December		
SO		Mrs A J Degnan	£300.00	15/12/2020 Salary

Item 2: Update on online banking. The Clerk had applied for online banking at NatWest and an email had been sent out by the bank which needed to be signed by the Councillors. Cllr Mason and Butler need to have the email resent to them.

Action: Clerk

Item 3: To consider purchasing a yearly subscription to ZOOM at a cost of £143.88 inc VAT (£119.90) or moving to Microsoft Teams (free). After some discussion it was unanimously decided to continue paying for ZOOM monthly.

207/20 Planning and Braintree District Council Planning applications. Item 1: To approve the minutes of the Planning Meeting held on Monday 28th September 2020. Proposed Cllr. Dixey, seconded Cllr. Hambling. All agreed. The Planning minutes were duly approved.

Matters arising from Planning Minutes. 20/01405/HH Firmins Grange Hill Greenstead Green Essex CO9 1QZ Proposed ground floor garage conversion and creation of first floor above. Note Cllr. Hambling declared an NPI. No objection – Approved. 20/01493/OUT Land at Mount Hill, Halstead, Essex. Outline application with all matters reserved except access for up to 130 dwellings with new landscaping, open space, access, and associated infrastructure. No objection – yet to be determined. It was noted that Halstead Town Council had objected to this development.

Item 2: For information only. 20/01640/HH - Waveney, Grange Hill, Greenstead Green. Note Cllr. Hambling declared an NPI - No objection. 20/01584/FUL - Woodcot Place, White Ash Green, Halstead- No objection.

Item 3 To consider a response to the Review of Scheme of Delegation & Proposals by Braintree District Council. This document was circulated prior to the meeting. After some discussion, the following response was agreed: ‘Overall Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council welcome the proposals contained in this review particularly the Members Forum and the invitation for Parish Councils to attend.’

208/20 Playing Field. Item 1: Power Supply grant- Clerk. As mentioned by D. Cllr. Schwier the Clerk confirmed that the grant of £600 is ringfenced for the power supply in the Playing Field. **Item 2: Update on CIF application.** The Clerk confirmed a grant offer of £7500 had been received from the CIF fund. This is to go towards a new climbing frame and associated costs. **Item 3: To consider applying for a**

District Councillor Grant to go towards the cost of a new gate for the playing field. Clerk. Cllrs. Mason and Hambling. After some discussion Cllr Mason agreed to obtain costs for the gate, posts, and pedestrian gate. The deadline for this is March 2021. He will also send an email to C.Cllr. Beavis to confirm match funding for the climbing frame. **Action:** Cllr. Mason.

209/20 Neighbourhood Plan. Item 1: Update on response to Facebook and website post. At the September meeting it had been agreed to place a post on Facebook and the parish council website asking for people to express interest in becoming involved in a Neighbourhood Plan. The post had been published and the Clerk confirmed that there had been no interest expressed. It was decided not to move forward on this. Cllr. Pleasance noted that Gosfield's plan was progressing and that Cllr. Bloomfield from Gosfield was looking into White Ash Green becoming involved with Gosfield's plan.

210/20 Stisted. Update on waste tip opposite Brooks Farm. Cllr. Hambling provided an update on this. Still waiting for a meeting to be arranged with James Cleverly, MP. Stisted Parish Council will be procuring notices for the site and will be placing an item on their website regarding the Article 4 directive which applies to this site. Rubbish is still there but the skip has been removed. The landowner has a deadline to clear the site before enforcement is involved.

211/20 Meeting Dates. Item 1: To agree the meeting dates for 2021. The dates, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, were duly agreed. It was also agreed to change the time to 7.15pm. Venue to be advised.

13th January

10th March

12th May AGM 7pm followed by Ordinary meeting

20th May APM (Thursday)

7th July

8th September

10th November

Item 2: Finance meeting date. Wednesday 6th January 2021. 7.15pm

212/20 Council Documents: To approve the following:

1. Reserve Policy Proposed Cllr. Mason, seconded Cllr. Butler. Approved.

213/20 Noticeboard: To consider purchasing a new noticeboard. Cllr. Mason to check the noticeboard's condition and investigate costs for a replacement. **Action:** Cllr. Mason

214/20 To receive reports from outside bodies, training courses, Village Representatives, Parish Council Committees and Advisory Groups.

Greenwatch – winter planting has been done. It is hoped to hold a Santa March on Christmas Eve along with carols around the Christmas tree in line with current restrictions. £400 is still left in the kitty. Some stalls have prebooked for the Fete next year.

215/20 To note any items of correspondence. None

216/20 Future agenda items. Budget.

217/20 To agree date to sign cheques and documents. 13th and 14th November 2020. Cllr. Foster and Mason.

There being no further items to discuss the meeting closed at 20:55.

Signed.....

Chairman – Greenstead Green and Halstead Rural Parish Council.

Date.....

<p>Amanda Degnan – Clerk to the Parish Council. 8 Nuns Meadow, Gosfield. 01787 274992. greensteadgreenclerk@outlook.com. WWW. greensteadgreenpc.org.uk.</p>
